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FRENTE REVOLUCIONARIA DE TIMOR-LESTE INDEPENDENTE
(REVOLUTIONARY FRONT FOR AN INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR)

FRETILIN

Darwin, 21/04/87

PRESS RELEASE

The following is a summary of information received from East Timor reporting on the situation during the period between January and April this year.

THE OPERATION KIKIS, A MILITARY OPERATION CARRIED OUT IN ET SINCE THE END OF LAST YEAR HAVE CAUSED HEAVY LOSSES ON THE INDONESIAN ARMY. THE EAST TIMORESE RESISTANCE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF FRETILIN ALSO SUFFERED CASUALITIES. FIGHTING HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN MOST PARTS OF THE TERRITORY. FALINTIL, THE ARMED WING OF FRETILIN, USING SMALL GUERILLA GROUPS HAVE MANAGED TO DISPERSE THE INDONESIAN FORCES DESTROYING THEIR CAPACITY TO MOUNT MASSIVE ATTACKS OVER THE RESISTANCE STRATEGIC REGIONS FOR LONG PERIOD OF TIME.

INDONESIAN TROOPS HAVE BEEN ESTIMATED AS ABOUT 30 BATALLIONS SUPPORTED BY OV 10's FIGHTERS, COMBAT CARS AND WARSHIPS.

DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN JANUARY AND APRIL 1987, ABOUT 300 INDONESIAN SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN KILLED. FRETILIN ALSO LOST 15 GUERILLAS. VERY HIGH CASUALITIES HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THE AREAS OF LOSPALOS AND VIQUEQUE, TWO VILAGES IN THE EASTERN

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PART OF E. TIMOR. IN LOSPALOS ALONE, 49 INDONESIAN SOLDIERS WERE KILLED. AS A REVENGE, 26 CIVILIANS WERE ARRESTED AND 10 OF THEM WERE SHOT BY THE INDONESIAN TROOPS. 16 MANAGED TO ESCAPE AND ARE NOW WITH FRETILIN. IN VIQUEQUE, 66 INDONESIAN SOLDIERS WERE KILLED AND 8 WOUNDED. FRETILIN ALSO LOST 2 MEN AND TWO WOUNDED WERE CAPTURED BY THE INDONESIAN TROOPS. THE INDONESIAN DEAD SOLDIERS WERE BURIED IN THE CEMETERIES OF BAUCAU, DILI, AND ATAMBUA. ONLY CORPSES OF HIGH RANK OFFICIALS WERE TAKEN DIRECTLY TO JAKARTA.

ARBITRARY IMPRISIONMENT

197 PEOPLE WERE IMPRISIONED IN DILI AND ANOTHER 100 IN BAUCAU . THERE IS A LIST PREPARED BY THE INDONESIAN ARMY OF FORMER FRETILIN CADRES TO BE ARRESTED SOON.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF EAST TIMOR HAS BEEN UNDER SEVERE PRESSURE BY THE INDONESIAN ARMY. THE CHURCH IS ACUSED OF COLA<u></u>BORATING WITH THE RESISTANCE. ONE STATUE OF THE VIRGIN MARY IN FRONT OF A CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN DILI AND A PICTURE OF THE LADY FATIMA PRINTED ON EUROPEAN TILES ALONGSIDE A MAIN ROAD OF EAST TIMOR WERE RECENTLY DESTROYED BY THE INDONESIAN ARMY AS A REVENGE AGAINST THE MORAL SUPPORT THE CHURCH OF E.TIMOR HAS BEEN GIVING TO THE TIMORESE RESISTANCE.

I CALL UPON THE INTERNACIONAL COMMUNITY TO SAFEGUARD THE LIFE AND WELL-BEING OF THE CAPTURED TIMORESE PATRIOTS.

AGIO PEREIRA

FRETILIN

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